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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count report examines statewide trends in the well-being of Hawaii's children. The bulk of this statistical report is comprised of indicator findings and is divided into four major sections: (1) family composition and resources, including children in poverty, family formation, births to teens, children in single-parent families, children with health insurance, and cost of shelter; (2) infancy and preschool years, including early prenatal care, low birth weight infants, infant mortality, fully immunized 2-year-olds, children at-risk for developmental problems, preparing for school, and child abuse and neglect; (3) early school years, including child deaths, children of working parents in after-school programs, academic progress of third graders, children with special needs, other educational measures in elementary years, and child abuse and neglect; and (4) adolescence and youth, including academic progress of eighth graders, other educational measures in secondary school years, high school graduation, healthy lifestyle, juvenile arrests for violent crimes, substance use, teenage pregnancy, abuse and neglect, idle teens, and teen violent deaths. Findings indicate that conditions have worsened in the percent of children in poverty, cost of shelter, low birth weight, children of working parents in after-school programs, child abuse and neglect (ages 6-11), academic progress of intermediate students, substance use, juvenile arrests for violent crimes, and idle teens. The report profiles demographics of Hawaiian children, outlines a vision for Hawaiian children's future, compares Hawaiian data to national data, and describes the methodology and data sources. (SD)

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Make Kids Count in Make Kids Count



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HAWAII' I KIDS COUNT • 1999 DATA BOOK



Kids Count in Hawaii

This is an annual report on the well-being of kids in Hawai'i. It was produced by Hawai'i Kids Count — a project of the Center on the Family, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Manoa — with funds from the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

1999 DATA BOOK

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*There are nearly 303,000 kids
in Hawai'i. They experience
the following:*



- 1 in 5 lives in poverty;
- over 1 in 5 live with a single parent;
- 7 families are formed by the first birth to parents who are unmarried;
- 3 girls age 17 and younger discover they are pregnant;
- 9 babies are born whose mothers did not get prenatal care in the first trimester;
- 4 babies are born with dangerously low weight (less than 5.5 pounds);
- 8,822 elementary students and 5,990 high school students are absent from school;
- 14 reports of child abuse are made, 48% of which will be legally confirmed; and
- 12 youths, of whom 30% are female, are arrested for serious crimes.

I N A D D I T I O N :

- 2 infants die every week without having celebrated their first birthday;
- 1 child age 1 to 14 dies nearly every week; and
- 3 teen deaths occur every month from homicide, suicide, or accident.

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Acknowledgments

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Some photographs are provided through the courtesy of Canon, USA, Inc. Other pictures are from personal collections, U.H. Center on the Family.



Overview of Indicators and Summary of Findings

The indicators for the Hawai'i Kids Count Data Book are those data points which are considered to be most indicative of the well-being of Hawai'i's children and youth. The focus is on outcome measures where possible, stated in either the positive (percent of women receiving early prenatal care) or negative (rate of child abuse and neglect). These are population-based numbers, stated as percents or as rates so that unequal groups can be compared. Most of the indicators have trend data, although the time period of the trend may not be identical in all cases. 1990 is used as a base year with the most recent three-year trend for comparison.

Ten core indicators have been identified by the national KIDS COUNT program of the Annie E. Casey Foundation for tracking and for comparison between the states. They are percent of low birth-weight babies; infant mortality rate; child death rate; teen birth rate; percent of teens who are high school dropouts, percent of teens not attending school and not working; teen violent death rate; percent of children in poverty; percent of families with children headed by a single parent; and a new indicator of percent of children living with parents who do not have full-time, year-round employment. Hawaii Kids Count has used these same indicators except for the last new indicator.

In addition, Hawaii Kids Count reports on fourteen other indicators, two of which are further broken down by age. The intent is for these to remain constant over time. However, newly recognized needs and changes in data availability have caused some amendment. The 1999 report includes two new indicators: family formation and healthy lifestyles. The 'substance use' indicator has been expanded to include information on tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. The indicator for school preparation has been changed to show only the children enrolled in Head Start as other programs assisting with preschool opportunities have changed.

The guiding principles in selecting indicators are as follows:

- the data item should reflect some important and widely accepted value for children;

- the statistical indicator must be available from a reliable source and be consistent over time;
- the data should be available by county or smaller geographic unit, by ethnicity, gender, age, or other special unit of analysis so that we can determine the life chances of subgroups in our state.

So, how are the children and youth doing? This report reflects 1997 data as the most recent that are available in most categories. Thirteen indicators show improvement during this decade, while ten areas show that they are losing ground.

INDICATORS SHOWING IMPROVEMENT, 1990-1997

Teen births
Children in single-parent families
Early prenatal care
Infant mortality
Children at risk for developmental problems
Immunized two-year-olds
Child deaths
Children with special needs
High school dropout
Healthy lifestyle
Teenage pregnancy
Abuse and neglect (age 12-17)
Teen violent deaths

LITTLE CHANGE, 1990-1997

Family formation
Children with health insurance
Child abuse and neglect (0-5)
Academic progress of elementary students
Child abuse and neglect, all ages

WORSENING CONDITIONS, 1990-1997

Children in poverty
Cost of shelter
Low birth-weight
Poverty four-year-olds in Head Start
Children of working parents in after school program
Child abuse and neglect (6-11)
Academic progress of intermediate students
Substance use
Juvenile arrests for violent crimes
Idle teens

For comparison with national trends on core indicators, see pages 50-51.

Demographic Profile of Hawai'i's Kids

There were 292,616 children and youth, ages birth to 19, in Hawai'i in 1980. By 1990, that number had increased by 0.5% to 294,098. The official estimate in 1997, according to the U.S. Census Bureau and the Hawai'i State Data Center was 302,592.

Location

The numbers grew on the neighbor islands, but decreased on O'ahu.

By County:	1980	% of All Kids	1990	% of All Kids	% change
Honolulu	228,567	78.11	215,378	73.23	-5.77
Hawai'i	29,573	10.11	35,874	12.20	21.31
Kaua'i	12,459	4.26	14,759	5.02	18.5
Maui	22,017	7.52	28,087	9.55	27.6

Nearly two-thirds of Hawai'i's children and youth (63.47%) live in urbanized areas, while only 0.6% live in rural farm areas. Persons under 19 years of age are more likely to live in the urban fringe, while adults are more likely to live in the central urban areas.

Proportion of the Population

Children and youth are a declining proportion of the entire population, while the percentage of those who are over age 64 is increasing:

Age	1980	1990	1997	% change 1990-97
under age 20	32.3	27.9	28.4	1.8
over age 64	7.9	11.3	13.2	16.8

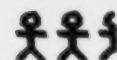
The dependency ratio (computed by adding together those under 15 and those over 64 and dividing by the number of 15 to 64 year-olds) has increased slightly from 31.15 to 32.32 due to the increase of senior citizens.

CHILD POPULATION BY COUNTY 1990

Honolulu



Hawai'i



Kaua'i



Maui



Ethnicity

It is impossible to detail changes in the proportions identifying themselves as belonging to the major ethnic groups in Hawai'i as the 1980 census grouped these differently. However, Hawai'i's rainbow in 1990 was composed as follows:

Caucasian	30.22%
Hawaiian	18.36%
Japanese	15.75%
Filipino	17.46%
Chinese	3.79%
Pacific Islander	3.46%
African American	2.94%
Korean	1.99%
Other	6.03%

Gender

The growing up experience is not the same for boys as it is for girls. While the population is roughly half male and half female, there are some subtle differences:

Age Group	1990 Estimate		1997 Estimate	
	Male %	Female %	Male %	Female %
0-5	51.4	48.6	51.4	48.6
6-11	51.5	48.5	51.6	48.5
12-17	51.6	48.4	51.7	48.3
Under 20	51.7	48.3	51.5	48.5

CHILD POPULATION BY ETHNICITY - 1990

Caucasian	☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Hawai'ian	☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Japanese	☺ ☺ ☺
Filipino	☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
Chinese	☺
Pacific Islander	☺
African-American	☺
Korean	☺
Other	☺ ☺



Our Vision for Hawai'i's Kids

Our vision is that "Hawaii's keiki are active participants in a safe, nurturing, and stimulating community that enhances every child's opportunities to become a productive, responsible adult appreciative of our cultural diversity and natural environment."

Hawai'i Kids Count Advisory Council

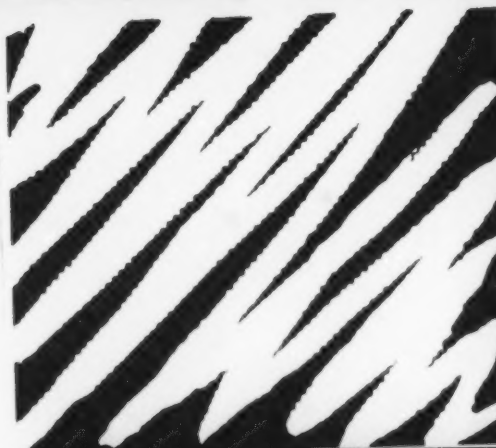
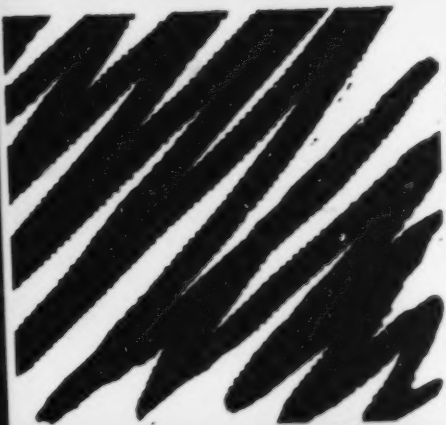


In 1997, the State Legislature adopted HCR 38, establishing a state policy for improving the well-being of children, youth, and families. It included the following child outcomes:

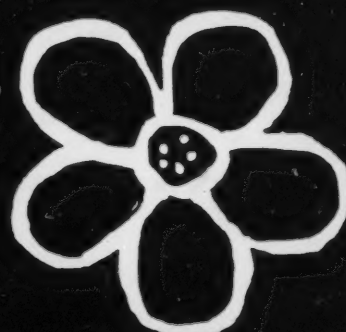
- Every child will thrive physically – be healthy from birth with ongoing access to good health care, have a safe home, school, and community environment.
- Every child will form positive relationships – have the attention of at least one caring adult and supportive friendships with peers.
- Every child will be prepared for and succeed in school – have developmentally nurturing care and early education opportunities, meet age-appropriate knowledge and competencies, and graduate from high school.
- Every child will be culturally aware and appreciative of diversity.
- Every child and youth will choose responsible behaviors – exhibit respect for himself or herself, others of every age, and society by refraining from drug use and from sexual and illegal activity.
- Every youth will develop marketable skills enabling a successful transition into adulthood.

The majority of children and youth are mentally and physically healthy because they grow up in loving, sustaining families where the care of children is viewed as a fundamental responsibility. All families need supportive communities and some families need more support than others to assure good outcomes for their children.

The Legislature found that "the acceptance of such a common set of desired outcomes for all children will enable community agencies and organizations, both public and private, to focus on achieving positive results in improving the quality of life of children and youth." We suggest that you can use the measures in this book to track the state's progress in meeting most of these outcomes.



**FAMILY
COMPOSITION
AND
RESOURCES**



Children in Poverty

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Growing up in poor and low-income families has been associated with a host of negative outcomes for children. These children usually have less adequate prenatal care and more often arrive at low birth-weight, with higher risk of infant mortality. Without extra effort, they exhibit lower levels of school readiness and slower intellectual development. The lack of financial security often leads to frequent moves which, in turn, can interrupt family stability and schooling, produce higher levels of personal and family

stress and lower levels of educational and socioeconomic attainment as adults.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

The percent of children in poverty has dramatically increased during this decade. County data from 1995 show that the increase is in every county, with the rate in Hawaii County being nearly double that of other areas. This report uses the federal poverty level (unadjusted for Hawaii's higher cost of living), thereby understating true poverty.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is the new welfare reform program. It provides monthly cash benefits to qualified families for food, clothing, shelter, and other essentials. At the end of 1997, 23,572 households in Hawaii were being assisted.

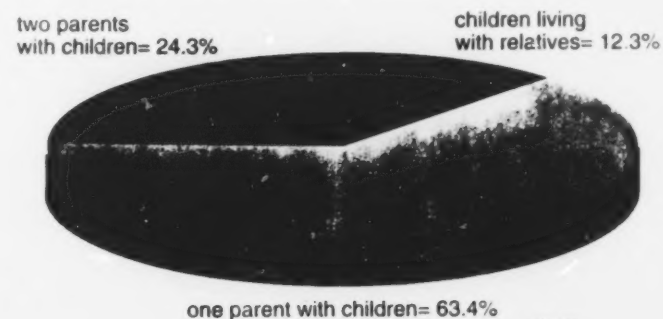
PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY

(based on US Census Bureau data)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	11.1	13.7	17.0	20.7	78%	●
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	10.1	14.0	n.a.			
Hawai'i	19.8	22.9	n.a.			
Kaua'i	8.1	11.8	n.a.			
Maui	9.5	12.2	n.a.			
ETHNICITY:*						
Caucasian	9.2	n.a.				
Japanese	2.8	n.a.				
Hawaiian	19.9	n.a.				
Filipino	7.9	n.a.				
Chinese	7.3	n.a.				
African- American	11.5	n.a.				
Korean	8.3	n.a.				
Pacific Islander	11.5	n.a.				

*1990 Census did not use these ethnic categories, so the base population in each group is not known

COMPOSITION OF WELFARE FAMILIES



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Family Formation – First Births

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

If one considers that a family is formed with the birth of a first child, the characteristics of the family at that time are significant. Research has shown that first births occurring to unmarried parents, or mothers who have not yet achieved a high school diploma or mothers who are less than twenty years of age are at risk of negative outcomes. When more than one of these risk factors are present, the risk intensifies for family poverty and instability. The children in these families are then at risk for poorer health, social and educational outcomes.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Statewide, the percentage of families formed at high risk has been steady, with only Hawai'i County increasing dramatically. When each risk is examined separately, non-marital first births have increased in each county. The City & County of Honolulu has recorded the most modest increase in non-marital births and reductions in the other two risk factors. Kauai County showed a decrease in those having a first birth before completing high school.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

There were 8,210 marriages in Hawai'i in 1997, with 71 percent (5,808) being first marriages.

Births with all three risk factors, as percent of all first births

	1990	1995	1996	1997	% Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	8.1	8.5	8.2	8.0	-1.23	●
County:						
Honolulu	7.6	7.4	7.3	6.7	-11.84	●
Hawai'i	9.6	16.9	14.2	15.4	60.42	same
Kaua'i	9.3	10.0	9.7	10.3	10.75	same
Maui	10.0	7.7	9.1	9.7	-3.00	●

Non-marital births, as percent of all first births

	1990	1995	1996	1997	% Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	32.4	36.1	37.9	37.9	16.05	●
County:						
Honolulu	29.4	32.3	34.2	33.3	13.27	●
Hawai'i	46.9	56.0	56.4	54.8	16.84	●
Kaua'i	36.3	45.6	45.9	53.8	48.21	●
Maui	39.4	40.9	44.7	47.8	21.32	●

Births to women under 20-years-of-age, as percent of all first births

	1990	1995	1996	1997	% Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	27.3	26.2	26.6	26.5	-2.93	same
County:						
Honolulu	25.7	24.3	24.5	23.7	-7.78	●
Hawai'i	35.9	39.7	40.1	42.0	16.99	●
Kaua'i	31.0	29.8	30.2	33.7	8.71	●
Maui	28.8	25.3	27.3	29.9	3.82	●

Births to women without a high school diploma, as percent of all first births

	1990	1995	1996	1997	% Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	12.5	11.9	12.1	11.6	-7.20	same
County:						
Honolulu	12.1	10.5	10.7	10.1	-16.53	●
Hawai'i	14.4	20.9	19.3	20.7	43.75	same
Kaua'i	14.0	13.8	12.9	11.4	-18.57	●
Maui	13.1	12.8	14.7	13.4	2.29	●

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Births to Teens

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Children born to teen mothers are much more likely to be living in poverty and experience higher rates of acute and chronic health problems, child abuse and neglect, and school failure. This is especially true for the babies of younger teens, those who have not completed high school. Twenty-six babies were born to girls 10 to 14 years old in 1997. Teenage parenting, even with adequate financial, emotional, medical,

and educational support, can be tough work.

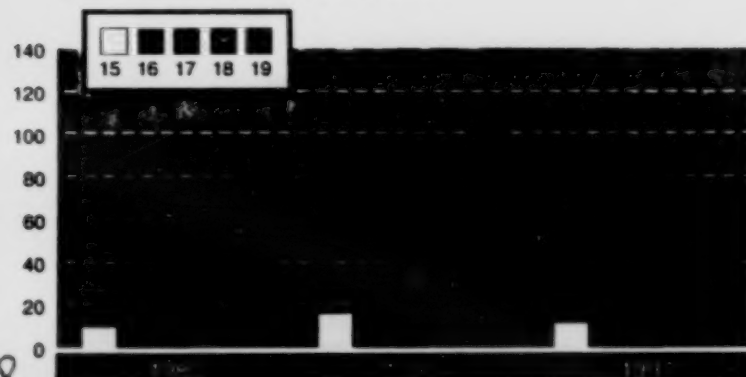
DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

The rate of teen births decreased over the decade of the 1990s in all counties and among all ethnic groups in Hawaii. Only in Maui was the pattern slightly different with higher teen birth rates in 1997 than in the previous two years. The ethnic groups with the highest rates showed the most modest decline.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

The Department of Education provided services to 1,153 pregnant and parenting teens at 39 school sites in 1997.

AGE-SPECIFIC BIRTH RATE



TEEN BIRTH RATE

(per 1,000 females age 15-19)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	32.5	27.7	27.9	25.1	-22.8%	●

TEEN BIRTH RATE

(per 1,000 females age 15-19)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	61.6	48.1	48.0	44.2	-28.2%	⊕

COUNTY:

Honolulu	60.7	46.6	45.1	39.1	-35.6%	⊕
Hawai'i	72.0	61.4	68.9	66.7	-7.3%	⊕
Kaua'i	60.2	49.9	44.3	40.8	-32.3%	⊕
Maui	63.3	52.5	51.9	56.4	-11.0%	●

ETHNICITY:

Caucasian	26.7	15.8	16.3	15.1	-43.2%	⊕
Japanese	17.0	10.9	10.7	6.6	-61.2%	⊕
Hawaiian	173.8	158.8	155.5	144.3	-23.8%	⊕
Filipino	59.4	40.4	42.1	35.6	-40.1%	⊕
Chinese	13.0	6.9	10.1	7.3	-43.7%	⊕
African-American	70.2	72.0	51.2	57.6	-17.9%	⊕
Korean	14.6	21.0	10.3	12.7	-13.0%	⊕
Samoa	69.7	43.8	52.4	35.8	-48.7%	⊕

Birth rates for all teens increased from 1980 to 1990. By 1997, rates for older teens (17 to 19 years-old) had decreased until they were lower than in 1980.

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Children in Single-Parent Families

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Parents are the most important adults in most children's lives. The number of parents living with a child is strongly associated with the economic and parenting resources available to that child. Many single-parent families have other adults in the household (relatives of parent figures) who may contribute to child rearing, and the simple presence of two-parents does not guarantee a nurturing atmosphere. However, two-parent families usually have more resources than single-parent families, which makes many family goals easier to achieve.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Since the data come from small numbers in a state survey, little importance should be placed on the lower numbers reported for 1997. This is especially true since much of the decrease occurs in the City & County of Honolulu where three-quarters of the state's children reside. It is important to note that consistently higher proportions of children in Hawaii County live in single-parent households. Information from the 1990 Census shows that the highest proportion of children in Hawaii living with two parents are Japanese, Chinese, and African-American.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

The national average for collection of current child support due was 22.5 percent in 1997. Hawaii collected about 24 percent of child support due, according to the Child Support Enforcement Agency.

PERCENT OF CHILDREN LIVING WITH SINGLE PARENTS

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	21	25	24	18	-13.46	☹
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	n.a.	n.a.	23	17		☹
Hawai'i	n.a.	n.a.	29	26		☹
Kaua'i	n.a.	n.a.	20	20		same
Maui	n.a.	n.a.	25	18		☹

PERCENT LIVING WITH TWO PARENTS

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	74.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	75.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Hawai'i	68.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Kaua'i	73.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Maui	70.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
ETHNICITY:						
Caucasian	77.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Japanese	81.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Hawaiian	61.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Filipino	72.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Chinese	81.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
African- American	80.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Korean	78.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Samoa	66.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		

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Children with Health Insurance

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Health insurance brings a promise of access to care. Preventive care, such as immunizations and growth monitoring, may lead to better health, and doctor visits provide important opportunities for enhancing parenting knowledge. Children without health insurance may be forced to wait for attention until a minor infection becomes a full-blown emergency. They may have to depend on the kindness of strangers in white coats in hospital emergency rooms

because they cannot afford regular care from a doctor who knows their name and medical history.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

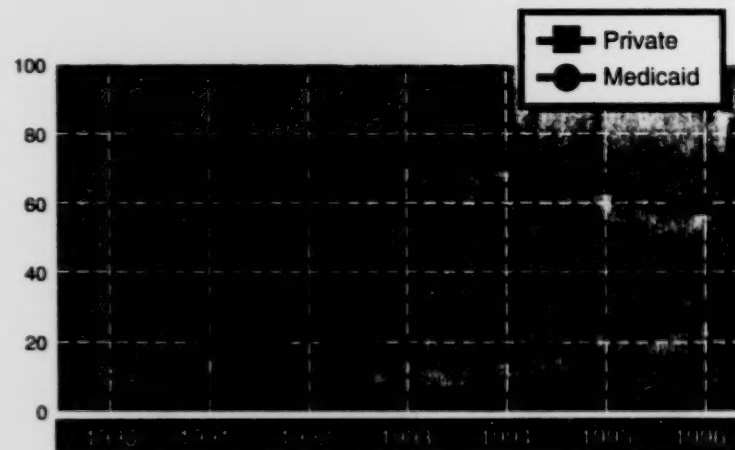
There has been little change over the years in the percent of children with health insurance. These data come from a national annual survey, so the number of families in Hawaii who are surveyed is small. Five years of data are then averaged to increase reliability, making change slow to be revealed.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Quest, the state-sponsored health insurance program, enrolled over 98,000 children in 1997.

PERCENT OF CHILDREN WITH HEALTH INSURANCE

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	92.1	92.5	94.7	92.6	0.5	●



Although the percent of Hawaii's children who are covered by health insurance has remained relatively constant, the type of coverage has changed. Private insurance coverage has declined more than 28 percent while Medicaid coverage has doubled.



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Cost of Shelter

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

The largest share of family income normally is spent on housing. As a general rule, the lower the family income, the larger the proportion of that income which must be committed to shelter. When the share which must go to housing costs is large, other demands on income must be reduced. This means that a high shelter-to-income ratio may force families to curtail spending on clothing, medical care, books, and other

items important to developing children. Research has shown inadequate housing to be related to increased asthma and respiratory disease, injuries, lead poisoning, and malnutrition in children.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Hawaii's families spent less on shelter expenses in 1997 than in 1995, although in both years the dollar amount and the percentage of their budget was greater than in 1990.

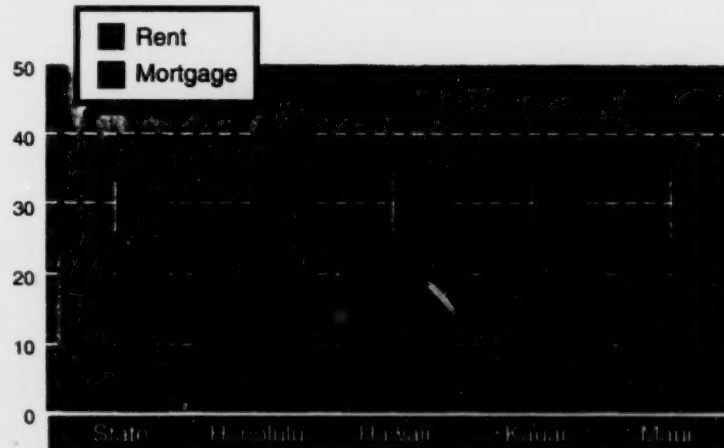
SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In 1997, 1,827 homeless children were provided temporary shelter by the Hawaii Housing Authority. Of these, just over half were age 5 and younger, with the average age being 6.2 years.

PERCENT OF BUDGET EXPENDED FOR HOUSING

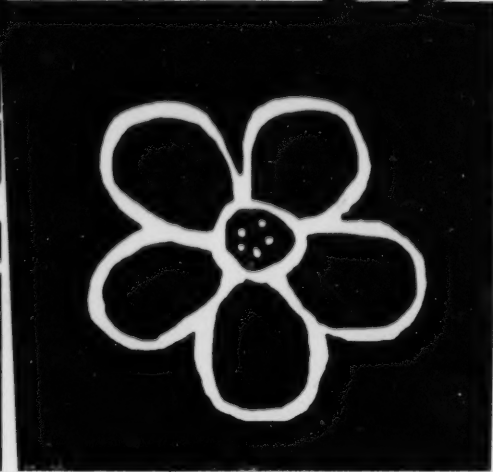
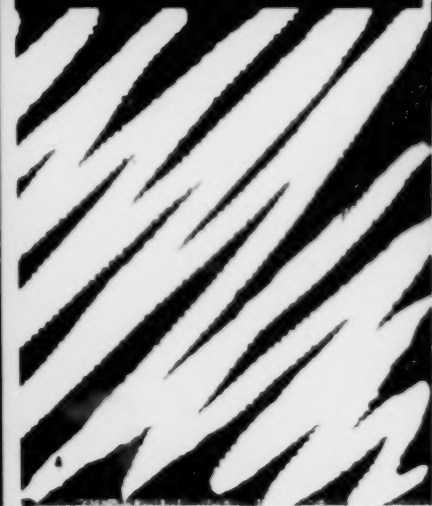
	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change	Recent Trend
State	30.5	34.6	n.a.	32.5	6.48	●
\$ Spent On Shelter	11,154	14,168	n.a.	13,638	22.27	

RATIO OF AVERAGE RENT/MORTGAGE TO MEDIAN INCOME-1997

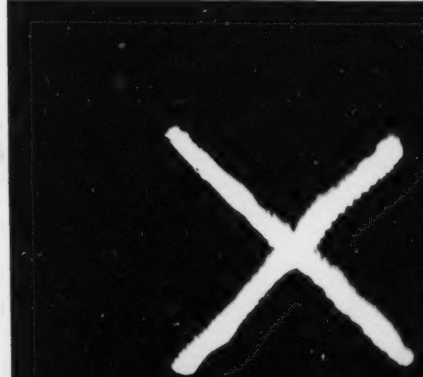


In every county, mortgage payments are higher than rent, with the smallest difference being experienced in Hawaii County. Homeowners on Oahu spend the greatest proportion of their income for housing, while renters in Maui commit the smallest share.

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**INFANCY
AND
PRESCHOOL
YEARS**



Early Prenatal Care

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

The receipt of early and on-going prenatal care increases the chances of delivering healthy, full-term, normal-weight babies. Early prenatal care can encourage good health habits during pregnancy, lead to early detection of medical problems, and provide a gateway to support and assistance. All these are associated with improved birth outcomes.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Only the Samoan subpopulation has shown no improvement during this decade in the percentage of women getting early prenatal care. All other geographic and ethnic groups have seen increase. However, almost all the change happened between 1990 and 1995. Since 1995, there has been little change in prenatal care rates in any ethnic group, although Hawaii and Maui counties exhibit slightly higher rates at the end of the period.

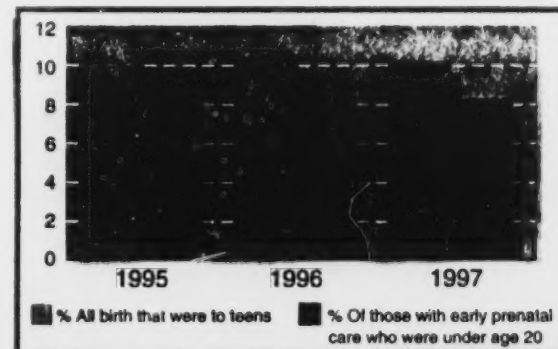
SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Mothers' Care, a non-profit organization, provided educational materials to 1,050 pregnant women in 1997 to reinforce the benefits of early and continuous prenatal care. Through perinatal support sites, 1,708 women were enrolled in the support program.

PERCENT OF BABIES BORN TO WOMEN WHO GOT EARLY PRENATAL CARE

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	68.9	81.2	81.7	81.3	18.10	same
COUNTY:						
Oahu	67.6	83.2	83.8	82.3	21.77	same
Hawaii	71.0	77.5	78.6	81.1	14.17	↑
Kauai	66.2	77.6	78.4	78.4	18.41	same
Maui	72.7	72.3	71.5	75.6	3.96	↑
ETHNICITY:						
Caucasian	75.1	88.2	87.9	88.6	18.01	
Hawaiian	63.6	76.1	77.7	77.4	21.77	
Filipino	80.2	79.9	80.4	80.3	0.09	
Japanese	67.8	89.5	89.3	88.6	30.81	
Chinese	81.1	84.8	84.3	81.7	0.80	
Samoan	68.8	67.9	70.1	68.0	-1.10	
African-American	39.8	89.4	86.8	87.0	118.48	
Korean	65.8	84.8	84.9	83.2	26.36	
Other	65.4	70.6	73.4	71.2	8.83	
GENDER:						
Male	68.3	81.3	81.8	81.1	18.71	
Female	69.4	81.1	81.6	81.6	17.48	

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Very consistently, teen mothers have been less likely than older mothers to obtain early prenatal care. This can result in poorer maternal health and poorer infant outcomes.

Low Birth-Weight Infants

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Low birth-weight infants (those weighing less than 5.5 pounds at birth) are more likely to die during the first year than full-weight babies. Research has shown that they are also more likely to experience disabilities and health problems such as mental retardation, developmental delays, visual and hearing defects, chronic respiratory ailments, autism, and learning difficulties that interfere with normal development and progress in school.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII

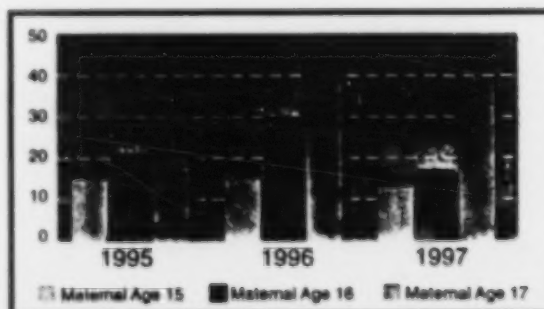
Low weight births have increased in recent years as a percentage of all births. However, there has also been an increase in multiple births (twins, triplets, etc.), which may account for much of the increase. Among the counties, Honolulu experiences more low-weight births and has shown the greatest increase. A decrease in low weight births has occurred with Caucasians and African-Americans, while Pacific Islanders and Koreans have had the greatest increases.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Women who smoke during pregnancy are at increased risk of a low-weight birth. In Hawaii, 1,386 mothers-to-be reported smoking during their pregnancy in 1997.

PERCENT OF BABIES WITH LOW BIRTH WEIGHT

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	7.1	7.8	9.5	8.7	22.43	●
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	7.1	8.1	10.1	9.1	27.88	●
Hawai'i	7.7	7.6	8.9	8.1	4.81	●
Kaua'i	8.0	6.7	6.8	7.7	-4.48	●
Maui	5.7	6.5	7.4	6.8	19.18	●
ETHNICITY:						
Caucasian	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.4	-2.19	●
Hawaiian	7.4	7.7	9.7	9.1	22.56	●
Chinese	6.2	6.5	11.0	8.6	38.04	●
Filipino	8.8	10.0	11.9	11.5	31.00	●
Japanese	6.9	8.5	10.7	10.0	45.00	●
Korean	4.6	7.3	9.9	8.9	92.89	●
Samoan	4.1	4.9	10.2	8.2	98.94	●
Other	7.4	8.0	10.9	7.5	1.73	●
African-American	11.0	10.3	8.0	7.8	-29.41	●
GENDER:						
Male	6.6	7.7	9.2	8.0	22.50	●
Female	7.7	7.9	9.9	9.4	22.43	●



Young mothers are more likely to have low birth-weight infants. The trend has varied by age, with those age 17 exhibiting the most increase.

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Infant Mortality

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

The very young and the elderly are the most physically vulnerable segments of the population. The risk of death is as high in the first year of life as it is at age 65. Infant mortality is the most widely used indicator of quality of life in developing countries as it captures elements of the level of nutrition, sanitation, medical treatment, and economic development in one measure. Advances in neonatal medicine have resulted in more at-risk infants surviving the first few months of life. Still, about half of all infant deaths are attributed to perinatal conditions, with nearly a fifth

of infants having congenital anomalies which caused their death.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Generally, infant mortality rates for each subpopulation are lower (better) in 1997 than they were in 1990. However, there has been little change in rates in the 1995-97 period, except for some increase in mortality among Filipinos and decrease among African-Americans and Koreans. Care must be taken in evaluating these data as the numbers are quite small and a difference of one or two deaths can make a large rate change.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In Hawaii in 1997, there were 1,836 babies born preterm (less than 37 weeks of gestation), while 1,092 babies were affected by birth defects. These are leading causes of infant deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	6.5	5.7	5.3	6.0	-7.06%	●
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	6.4	6.0	5.5	6.1	-4.80%	same
Hawai'i	9.0	7.4	4.5	5.8	-35.20%	●
Kaua'i	4.2	2.4	7.4	5.4	27.36%	●
Maui	5.3	3.2	4.3	6.0	13.12%	●
ETHNICITY:						
Caucasian	4.8	4.5	4.7	3.7	-22.97%	●
Japanese	7.5	3.5	3.9	4.9	-34.23%	●
Hawaiian	8.3	6.0	6.0	7.6	-8.67%	●
Filipino	3.6	5.3	6.0	8.7	142.00%	●
Chinese	3.9	6.8	2.8	4.8	22.70%	●
African-American	11.4	14.8	8.5	2.3	-79.99%	●
Korean	8.2	5.8	0.0	0.0	-100.00%	●
Samoa	5.1	9.7	9.8	8.0	55.27%	●
Male	5.5	--	5.0	5.2	-5.27%	●
Female	7.3	--	5.6	6.7	-8.41%	●

Fully Immunized Two-Year-Olds

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Childhood diseases (measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, and polio) can lead to permanent disability or death. Immunizations protect children by preventing these diseases. This measure can also be regarded as a proxy for the proportion of very young children getting access to at least minimal well-child care.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

There is no immunization registry in Hawai'i, so the only data regularly available are from the National Immunization Survey. Information is not available for the counties or for other sub populations.

PERCENT FULLY IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	61	78	77	79	29.51	●

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

At Public Health Clinics in 1997, 615 young children were given age-appropriate immunizations.



Children At Risk for Developmental Problems

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Children with developmental disabilities or handicapping conditions can be helped to achieve their greatest potential when they receive early intervention services. Children age birth to three are eligible for services when they are identified as being affected by the following:

- a developmental delay (cognition, speech, language, health, motor, vision, hearing, etc.);
- biological risk (a mental or physical condition that has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay); and/or

- environmental risk (living in socio-economic conditions that are known to have a negative effect on development).

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Improvements were made in identifying and serving more very young children in the early part of the decade, but these have stalled in recent years as resources have become scarce. Data are not available for the counties or for other sub populations.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Under Med-Quest, the state-sponsored health insurance program administered by the Department of Human Services, 92 percent of all covered children under one year of age participated in the Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Testing program in 1997.

PERCENT IDENTIFIED AS AT RISK FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	5.6	6.9	n.a.	6.6	65.28	same



Preparing for School

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Quality preschool, child care, and Head Start programs have been found to help children get ready for school success, to prevent costly special education and school dropouts, and to reduce the likelihood of teen pregnancy, criminal activity and welfare dependency when these children reach adulthood. In fact, some studies have concluded that the most constant variable in many forms of academic and future adult success is preschool attendance.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

The trend in opportunity for poverty-related four-year-olds to attend quality preschool programs is unclear. There has been much change in programs that subsidize child care during this period. Since the issue is quality preschool programs, it was decided to use only Head Start enrollment. Even those data are flawed as the Kaua'i program closed for a period of time. The state data for 1996 and 1997 were derived by estimating the Kaua'i enrollment.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

As a measure of the availability of high quality programs available to all children, there are five accredited child care centers and four accredited family child care homes.

PERCENT OF POVERTY-RELATED FOUR-YEAR OLDS IN HEAD START

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	60.0	61.9	53.0	46.4	-22.65	☹☹

COUNTY: (total participation of four-year-olds, disregarding poverty status)

Honolulu	58.2	59.9	50.2	43.4	-25.43	☹☹
Hawai'i	43.0	51.8	44.1	40.3	-6.28	☹☹
Kaua'i	109.8	76.0	n.a.	n.a.		
Maui	128.7	102.0	78.7	63.3	-50.84	☹☹



Child Abuse and Neglect (Birth - Age 5)

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

For healthy development, children need a safe and nurturing family environment, yet home is a dangerous place for far too many of Hawai'i's children. Over 40 percent of all confirmed cases of child abuse and neglect involve children under the age of six. Child abuse or neglect can result in physical disability, profound developmental and behavioral problems, and death. Infants and toddlers (birth through age 2) are most likely to be victims of injury, while preschoolers (ages 3 through 5) are more likely to suffer neglect.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAI'I:

Because these numbers are thankfully small, some natural variation is to be expected in the rates. The number of confirmed cases of child abuse and neglect where the victim was under six years of age was 1032 in 1990, 1022 in 1995, and 1115 in 1997. The number of highly publicized cases in the past few years could be expected to translate into increased reporting from the community and greater vigilance in investigation of those reports. Therefore, the higher number of confirmed cases in 1997 is predictable.

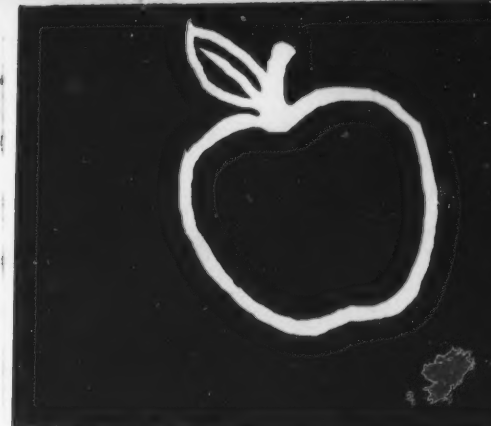
RATE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AGES 0-5

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	10.4	9.1	8.2	10.4	0.46	

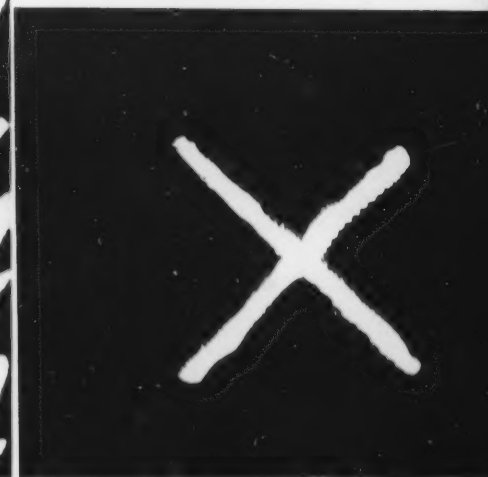
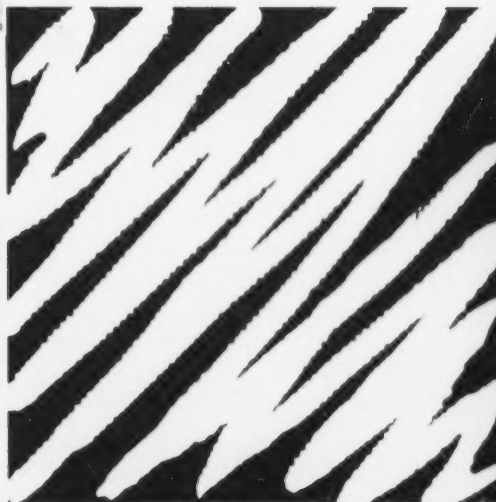


SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

The KIDS, You Can't Beat 'em campaign trained 381 preschool educators, pastors, teachers, doctors, and good neighbors in ways to support young families and respond to instances of potential abuse.



**EARLY
SCHOOL
YEARS**



Child Deaths

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

The child death rate is a reflection of health problems, exposure to hazardous conditions, preventable injuries, and child abuse and neglect. An important way to identify threats to the health and well-being of children and youth is to examine causes of death. These vary by age group. A Child Death Review program has been enacted to make more precise

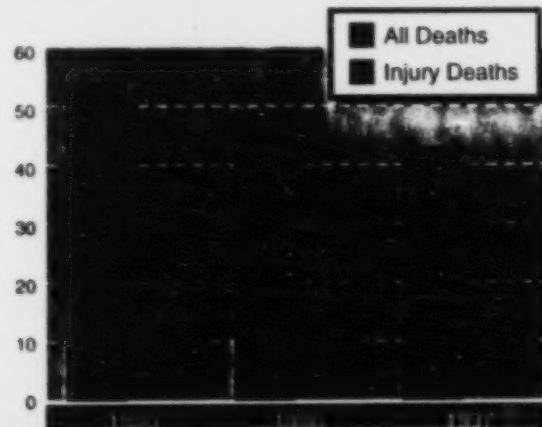
determination of cause by engaging a multi-disciplinary panel.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

The child death rate has declined over this decade in the nation, the state and each of Hawaii's counties. Caution must be exercised in examining rates for the counties, as the small number of deaths means that wide variation in rates is illusory.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In a recent year, the Department of Health (HCP) and Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition chapters around the state, held 57 checkups and inspected 1,329 keiki car seats in a campaign to reduce motor vehicle fatalities among children.



CHILD DEATH RATE, AGES 1-14

(per 1,000 live births)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	24.3	22.5	20.3	17.8	-26.60	☺

COUNTY:

Honolulu	20.4	22.8	19.9	18.5	-8.95	☺
Hawai'i	36.0	20.0	23.2	27.1	-24.88	☺
Kaua'i	43.7	40.4	8.1	8.2	-81.22	☺
Maui	28.0	12.9	25.8	8.8	-68.70	☺

ETHNICITY: (AS A PERCENT OF ALL CHILD DEATH)

	% of population				
Caucasian	17.9	10.0	16.7	6.1	31.5
Japanese	8.9	10.0	13.0	10.2	15.5
Hawaiian	32.1	42.0	38.9	53.1	18.1
Filipino	14.3	12.0	24.1	10.2	17.1
Chinese	7.1	0.0	1.9	2.0	4.8
African-American	3.6	2.0	1.9	4.1	3.2
Korean	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
Samoan	8.9	12.0	0.0	6.1	2.4
Other	0.0	12.0	3.7	8.2	5.5
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

GENDER:

Male	34.2	24.8	18.8	20.9	-39.10	same
Female	15.7	21.4	23.0	16.5	4.94	☺

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Children of Working Parents in After School Programs

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Children, especially in elementary school, need supervision and guidance, both at school and in the hours outside school. Hawaii has a high percentage of children with both parents or their only custodial parent in the labor force. Therefore, it is especially important to know that these children are in adult care when not in school. Hawaii has the only state-wide system of child care for elementary students (the A+ Program) and its financing is a public-private partnership with parents. While there are many other arrangements that keep children safe, the A+ enroll-

ment is used here as an indication of consistent, licensed care for children after school hours.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

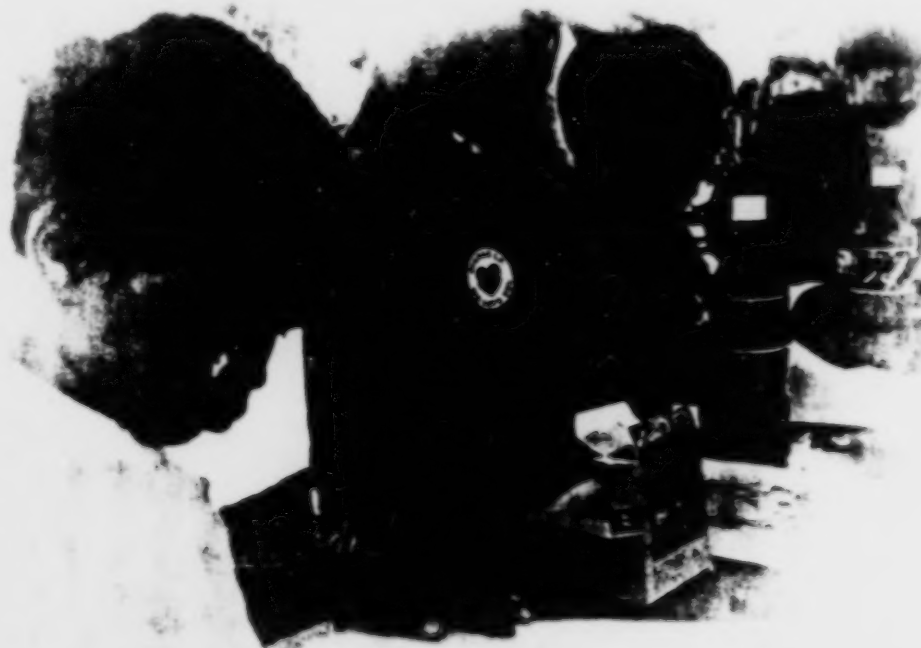
There has been a steady decline in the proportion of children of working parents who are enrolled in the A+ Program, beginning in 1994. The difference between counties is slight. This trend coincides with the general economic downturn in the state, perhaps indicating that parents are making other arrangements for supervision – arranging their own schedules or depending on relatives to a greater degree.

PERCENT OF WORK FORCE CHILDREN IN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1995-1997	Recent Trend
State	43.3	41.3	38.9	33.4	-22.81	●
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	n.a.	42.1	38.7	33.5	-20.40	●
Hawai'i	n.a.	40.7	41.5	34.5	-15.14	●
Kaua'i	n.a.	45.9	38.9	33.7	-26.60	●
Maui	n.a.	37.2	36.6	31.2	-16.14	●

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

The record of juvenile arrests in 1997 included 126 children under the age of 10. The offenses included 50 burglary or thefts, 29 runaways, and 10 acts of vandalism.



Academic Progress of Third Graders

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Education is recognized by most to be the real 'work' of childhood. Once a child starts to school, his or her academic progress is an important indicator of future life success. Math scores are tracked in this study, rather than reading scores, as they are perhaps less affected by English language proficiency. With so many children living in homes in which English is not the primary language, this seemed a more fair and inclusive measure.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

There has been little change in the performance of Hawaii students over the past few years. Those in Hawaii County have made slight improvement since the beginning of the decade, while those in Maui County have fallen from 1990 when their performance was best in the state.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In a survey by the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 22 percent of students reported watching at least six hours of television a day.

PERCENT OF THIRD GRADERS SCORING AVERAGE AND ABOVE AVERAGE IN MATHEMATICS: Stanford Achievement Test

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	80.1	81.4	79.5	80.5	0.50	same
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	80.2	82.3	80.7	81.3	1.37	same
Hawai'i	74.6	76.5	75.2	76.0	1.88	same
Kaua'i	81.1	81.3	81.5	79.2	-2.34	●
Maui	86.3	81.2	77.4	81.0	-6.14	same



Children with Special Needs

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

There are at least four overlapping groups of children who have demonstrably special educational needs: those with developmental delays or intellectual deficits; those whose emotional problems interfere with learning; those from poor economic or nutritional circumstances; and those with limited ability to communicate in English, the language of instruction. On this page are data concerning services provided to children in the first category. Data about children in the last two categories are found on page 28. More information should be available in the future about children in the second category.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

There have been significant increases in the number of children being identified and served in special education classes. Much of this has been driven by the Felix consent decree and by increased attention and resources directed to students with special needs. The increases have been observed in all counties. The highest percentage of students served, as well as the greatest increase, is in Kauai County. Honolulu County has shown the slowest increase.

PERCENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	4.4	5.6	5.9	6.0	33.33%	⊕
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	n.a.	5.5	5.8	5.8	31.82	⊕
Hawai'i	n.a.	5.7	6.1	6.3	46.51	⊕
Kaua'i	n.a.	7.9	8.1	8.5	49.12	⊕
Maui	n.a.	4.6	5.3	5.7	42.50	⊕

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In 1997, 2,057 children were referred for evaluation regarding need for special educational services to enable them to achieve to their highest potential. It was the initial referral for 79 percent (1,602) of them.



Other Educational Measures in Elementary Years

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

As academic achievement is a measure of intellectual growth, other measures can speak to character development, family stability and support, and responsibility in being present for instruction.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Attendance was lower in 1997 than in earlier years, especially in the City and County of Honolulu. More children were able to complete the entire year in the same school, except in Honolulu, and more were eligible for free or reduced price lunches in every county.



1997 Average Daily Attendance

State.....	92.6%
County:	
Honolulu	92.2%
Hawai'i.....	93.4%
Kaua'i.....	93.9%
Maui.....	93.3%

1997 Percent Completing Year in Same School

State	84.7%
County:	
Honolulu	81.0%
Hawai'i	92.7%
Kaua'i	97.1%
Maui	92.0%

1997 Percent Receiving Free/Reduced Price Lunch

State	47.3%
County:	
Honolulu	44.7%
Hawai'i	60.0%
Kaua'i	48.2%
Maui	47.0%

1997 Students in Limited English Program

State	7.8%
County:	
Honolulu	7.9%
Hawai'i	4.5%
Kaua'i	6.9%
Maui	8.1%

Child Abuse and Neglect (Ages 6 - 11)

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Children suffering physical and sexual abuse have been found to be at higher risk for failure in school, for truancy, and for juvenile delinquency than are other children. Abused children in this age group often have difficulty relating to peers and are unable to make the transition to structured learning in the classroom. Preadolescence is a common age for sexual abuse to commence. Child abuse and neglect occurs in every neighborhood and every ethnic, religious, and economic group. Research shows it is less likely to occur in healthy, attractive children and in families with savings in the

bank. Families facing few stressful events and having good social supports (including religious affiliation) are generally safer for children.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

It is always difficult to interpret child abuse data. That is the reason that there are not national rankings or comparisons. Reporting and public interpretation of what constitutes abuse can vary from place to place. The abuse of children in elementary school has increased over this decade, a pattern not observed in other age categories. The worsening of the state rate is led by high rates in Hawai'i and Maui counties.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In 1997, 3,211 children were in foster care, of whom 26 percent were placed with relatives and 17 percent were placed in the same neighborhood as their parents, reducing school and social disruption.

RATE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AGES 6-11 (per 1,000 children of this age)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	4.8	6.8	7.2	8.0	66.02	⦿

RATE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT, AGES 0-17 (per 100,000 children of this age)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	8.1	7.6	7.4	8.3	1.90	⦿

COUNTY:

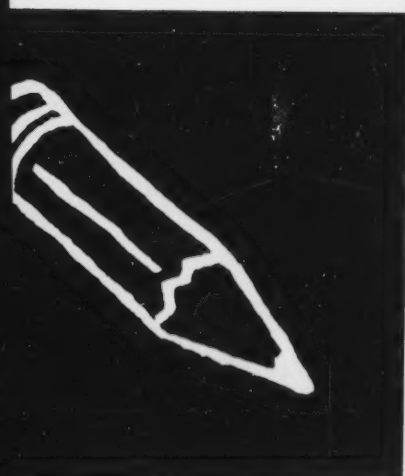
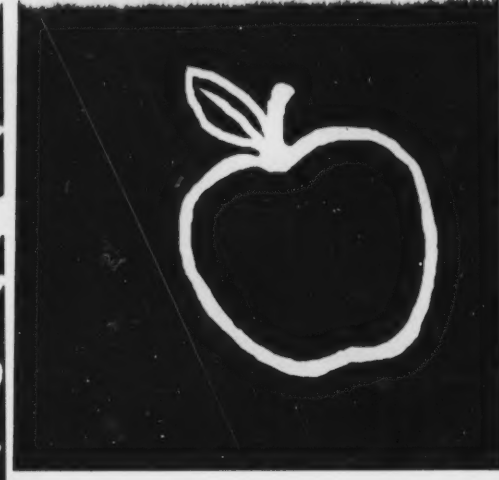
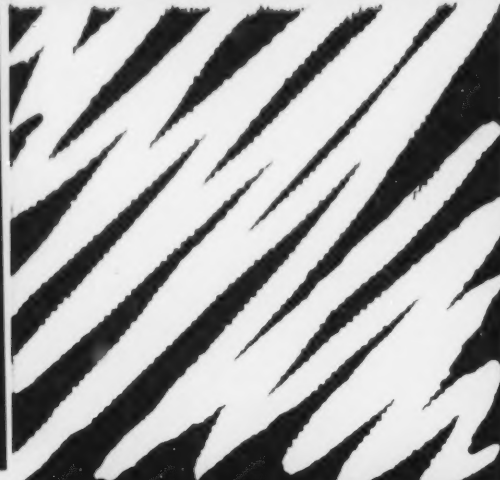
Honolulu	7.2	6.0	5.0	5.6	-22.38	😊
Hawai'i	4.5	13.1	15.8	20.4	354.51	⦿
Kaua'i	14.8	9.8	6.7	6.0	-59.65	😊
Maui	6.4	11.2	16.0	14.9	130.77	⦿

ETHNICITY:

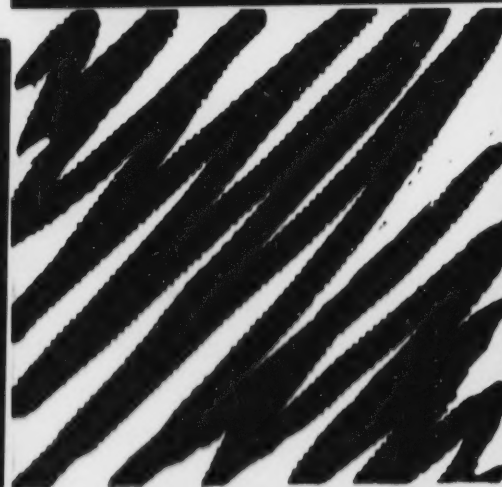
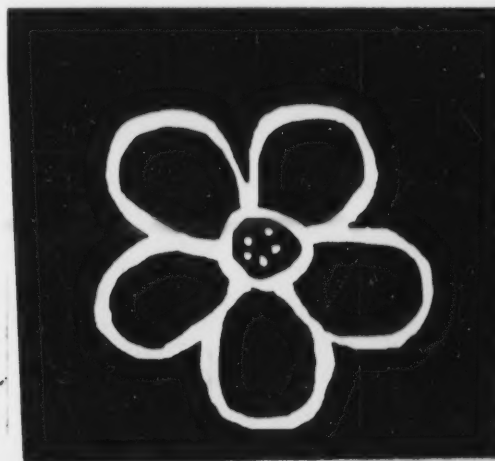
Caucasian	4.7	3.3	3.2	3.4	-27.04	😊
Japanese	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.9	65.04	⦿
Hawaiian	13.2	13.9	13.9	17.6	33.32	⦿
Filipino	3.0	2.9	2.3	3.8	26.85	⦿
Chinese	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	-34.16	😊
African-American	9.4	4.0	7.5	3.8	-59.03	😊
Korean	2.2	2.1	2.6	1.4	-37.78	😊
Samoan	9.8	8.1	8.4	12.6	28.08	⦿
Other	31.5	31.7	29.5	27.6	-12.47	😊

GENDER:

Female	9.3	8.5	8.5	9.0	-2.99	😊
Male	7.0	6.7	6.3	7.6	8.16	⦿



**ADOLESCENCE
& YOUTH**



Academic Progress of Eighth Graders

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

This is the only check on academic progress between elementary school and graduation used in this report. The indicator looks at the measure most consistently available: scores on the Stanford Achievement Test (S.A.T.) math section for eighth graders in the public schools. Math was selected here because Hawai'i has many students for whom English is their second language and math scores were felt to be less affected by language familiarity than reading scores.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAI'I:

Kaua'i has shown consistent improvement in recent years, but the other counties have reported fewer students scoring average or better. Approximately 22 percent of eighth graders taking the test have scored 'above average', with a slightly higher percentage doing so on Oahu.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In a survey by the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 65 percent of Hawai'i students reported doing at least thirty minutes of math homework a day.

PERCENT OF EIGHTH GRADERS SCORING AVERAGE OR BETTER ON SAT MATH TEST

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	74.4	69.8	73.6	68.5	-7.9	☹
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	74.0	71.7	75.2	69.8	-5.61	☹
Hawai'i	76.3	59.9	70.1	65.1	-14.72	☹
Kaua'i	73.7	68.7	75.4	77.6	5.36	😊
Maui	75.2	63.2	68.6	64.3	-14.49	☹

* includes some tenth grade students



Other Educational Measures in Secondary School Years

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Standardized test scores are one measure for assessing the development of our youth. These test scores are affected by economic and social factors that are also measured in school. Attendance affects academic achievement, as does the school climate of safety. Poverty is known to be related to achievement, particularly through access to enriching experiences, so it is helpful to know the proportion of students financially eligible for subsidized meals. Most students who begin their senior year will graduate, but it is not uniform throughout the schools. These data

reflect only the experience of public school students.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Students on Oahu had slightly worse attendance and those on the Neighbor Islands did slightly better, causing a different ranking from earlier years. The percent of seniors earning a diploma fell in the state, with Kaua'i moving from second highest to the lowest ranking. The greatest change was in the percent of students receiving free or reduced price lunch: Hawai'i County, with the highest percentage, had the least increase.

Average Daily Attendance

	1995	1997	Percent Change 1995-97	Recent Trend
State	90.8	90.6	-0.22	same
County:				
Honolulu	91.1	90.4	-0.77	●
Hawai'i	88.4	89.4	1.13	●
Kaua'i	91.0	93.4	2.64	●
Maui	88.4	91.3	3.26	●

Percent of Seniors Earning a Diploma (course requirements met, plus passing Hawai'i State Test of Essential Competencies)

	1995	1997	Percent Change 1995-97	Recent Trend
State	89.4	88.1	-1.45	●
County:				
Honolulu	89.1	88.4	-0.79	●
Hawai'i	91.5	88.7	-3.06	●
Kaua'i	89.4	86.4	-3.36	●
Maui	88.8	86.7	-2.36	●

Percent of Students Enrolled in Limited English Proficiency Program

	1995	1997	Percent Change 1995-97	Recent Trend
State	5.4	6.3	16.67	more
County:				
Honolulu	6.4	7.6	18.75	more
Hawai'i	3.4	3.9	14.71	more
Kaua'i	2.9	2.9	0.00	same
Maui	4.8	4.9	2.08	more

Percent Receiving Free/Reduced Price Lunch

	1995	1997	Percent Change 1995-97	Recent Trend
State	24.1	26.8	11.20	●
County:				
Honolulu	20.7	23.9	15.46	●
Hawai'i	38.3	40.0	4.44	●
Kaua'i	19.5	25.5	30.77	●
Maui	22.2	24.1	8.56	●

High School Graduation

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

No single event marks the recognized entry into adulthood in our society more than high school graduation. High school diplomas are the minimum requirement for many jobs; advanced education and training often is impossible without one. Information is easily known about public school graduations in Hawaii. However, the data for private schools are no longer reported to the Department of Education nor to any centralized location. Therefore, the dropout rate will be

used to indicate the percent of youths who are leaving school without completing a recognized secondary program.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Only one state – Wisconsin – has a lower dropout rate than Hawaii; the national average is ten percent of youths dropping out of school before earning a diploma. Current county data are not available for this indicator, although the 1990 census showed Kauai with the lowest dropout rate and Maui with the highest.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Over 10,000 Hawai'i students were enrolled in institutions of higher education, 19 percent of them in colleges and universities outside the state.

DROPOUT RATE

(those 16-19 who are not enrolled in school and are not high school graduates)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State – all grades	7	4	5	5	-28.57	same

FROM DOE – COMPLETER/LEAVER STATISTICS

State – all grades	3.6	3.7
10th grade	4.3	4.5
11th grade	5.3	5.3
12th grade	5.6	5.2



Healthy Lifestyle

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Nutrition and exercise are important to growing bodies and good health. Research findings support the central role played by nutrition in a child's ability to concentrate and learn. Lifetime dietary patterns are established during adolescence. Regular physical activity increases life expectancy and is associated with good mental health and self-esteem. The Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey asks several questions to assess diet and fitness, of which we report two: "Yesterday, how many times did you eat fruit?" and "On how many of the past seven days did you exercise or participate in sports activities for at least 20 minutes that made you sweat and breathe hard, such as basketball, jogging,

swimming laps, tennis, fast bicycling, or similar aerobic activities?"

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

More students are eating fruit (also green salads and cooked vegetables, according to the survey), while the percentage of students eating french fries or potato chips remained rather constant. Ninth grade males were most likely to reply in the affirmative about eating fruits and eleventh grade males most likely to eat vegetables with tenth and eleventh grade females least likely to eat fruit and vegetables. Overall, little change was noted in the pattern of vigorous exercise. Exercise declined with age with this being especially marked in females at grade ten and beyond.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In 1997, 41 percent of public school students (48 percent of males and 33 percent of females) played on school-sponsored sports teams.

PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO ATE FRUIT ONE OR MORE TIMES A DAY

	1993	1995	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	61.0	68.7	70.0	14.75	☺
GENDER:					
Male	62.9	74.2	72.0	14.47	☺
Female	59.0	63.4	68.0	15.25	☹

PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO EXERCISED VIGOROUSLY THREE TIMES A WEEK

	1993	1995	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	62.2	61.2	61.0	-1.93	same
GENDER:					
Male	72.5	73.9	73.0	0.69	same
Female	51.0	48.7	48.0	-5.88	☹



Juvenile Arrests for Violent Crimes

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

While any unlawful act by a teenager is of concern, this measure is a reflection on the most serious crimes: homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. This statistic is not a count of youthful offenders, but of arrests. It does not predict other crime trends but is the least sensitive to change and the most directly comparable to other states. Changes in other categories of arrests may reflect police or public policy shifts, rather than behavioral changes.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Juvenile arrests for violent crimes jumped between 1995 and 1996, then decreased slightly in 1997. That was especially true for 15- and 16-year-olds and for Honolulu County, where nearly three-quarters of teens reside. However, the 1997 levels continued higher than in mid-decade. Data for Kaua'i are difficult to interpret as the number of arrests is very small. Native Hawaiian, Samoan, and African American youths are twice as likely to be arrested as those from other ethnic groups.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In the Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 14 percent of students reported that they had recently carried a weapon, 4 percent recently carried a gun.

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JUVENILE VIOLENT CRIME ARREST RATE (per 100,000 youths age 10-17)

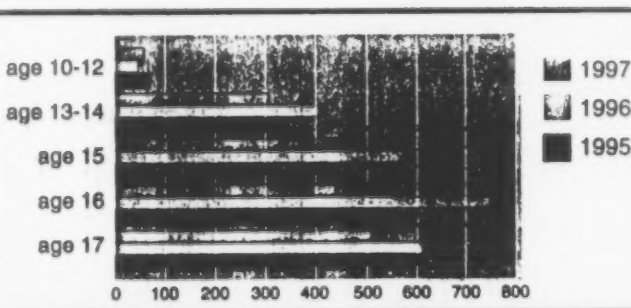
	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	242.5	287.9	361.7	334.9	38.1	☹
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	265.1	319.2	420.5	392.6	48.1	☹
Hawai'i	169.7	173.6	159.7	200.7	18.2	☹
Kaua'i	206.3	171.9	201.9	31.5	-84.7	☺
Maui	180.7	262.8	253.0	223.3	23.6	☹

ETHNICITY: (as percent of youth arrests for violent crimes)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent in Teen Population
Caucasian	14.1	12.5	8.8	n.a.	26.9
Japanese	3.5	1.4	2.6	n.a.	17.9
Hawaiian	32.2	32.4	37.3	n.a.	16.8
Filipino	23.3	13.1	12.7	n.a.	20.1
Chinese	1.1	0.0	0.4	n.a.	5.8
African-American	1.1	3.5	4.1	n.a.	2.4
Korean	1.1	0.3	1.3	n.a.	2.3
Samoan	13.8	19.6	17.0	n.a.	2.3
Other	9.9	17.2	15.7	n.a.	5.5

GENDER: (as percent of age-group arrests)

Female	9.6	10.4	15.7	13.0
Male	90.4	89.6	84.3	87.0



Arrests for violent crimes increase with age with the most marked jump occurring with the onset of teenage years. This trend levels off in the middle teen years and begins to subside by age 17.

Substance Use

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

The most recent research among high school students in Hawai'i indicates that 72 percent have tried alcohol, 67 percent have tried cigarettes, and 46 percent have tried marijuana at some point. When experimentation becomes regular use, there are serious risks to health, education is jeopardized, and relationships with family and peers may be disrupted. Alcohol is a major contributing factor in approximately half of all homicides, suicides, and motor vehicle crashes – the leading causes of death and disability among teens. Nicotine dependency through cigarette smoking is the most common form of drug

addiction and causes more death and disease over a lifetime than all other types of addictions combined. Research shows that over three-quarters of adult smokers started during their teen years.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAI'I:

While the 1997 Youth Risk Behavior Survey showed that substance use in every major category was slightly lower than the 1995 report, the differences were not statistically significant. The 1997 rates continued to be higher than 1993. It should be noted that the students in Hawai'i use cigarettes, alcohol, and other drugs at rates somewhat lower than the national average.

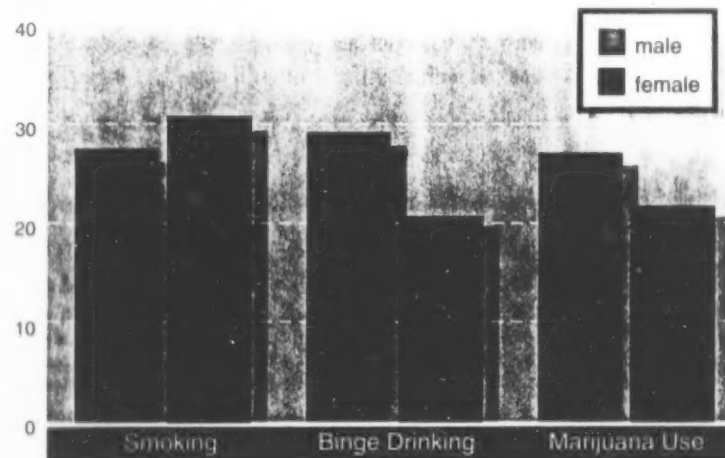
SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In 1997, only 10 percent of students were not asked to show proof of age when they bought cigarettes, a significant drop from the 71 percent who were not asked in 1995.

PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REPORTING REGENT SUBSTANCE USE

	1993	1995	1997	Percent of Change 1993-97	Recent Trend
smoked	28	32	29	3.6	↔
smoked 2+ cigarettes a day	20	25	21	5.0	↔
drank alcohol	38	41	40	5.3	↔
had 5+ drinks of alcohol on one occasion	23	24	25	8.7	↔
used marijuana	17	24	24	41.2	↔
used cocaine	3	3	3	0.0	same

GENDER DIFFERENCE IN SUBSTANCE USE, 1997



There are gender differences in substance use among high school students. Females are more likely to smoke regularly than males, but males are more likely to abuse alcohol and use marijuana.

Teenage Pregnancy

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

The costs of teen pregnancy are great for the young woman, her child if the pregnancy outcome is a live birth, and the community. Pregnancy interrupts the ideal psychological and social development of adolescent girls, especially those under the age of 18. Research has shown that a teenage girl who becomes pregnant often enters a cycle of school failure, poverty, and delinquency. The pregnancy may disrupt relationships with peers or partners and strain family ties.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

The trend in teen pregnancy has been steadily improving over this decade. That pattern has been true for those 15 to 17 years old as well as for older teens. The trend has not been consistent for Hawaii or Maui Counties. Nearly half of all teen pregnancies are to Native Hawaiian young women, a group that is less than one-fifth of the population.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

The Peer Education Program trained 856 teens at 26 schools to share information encouraging self-respect, responsible decision-making, and caring support of others.

TEEN PREGNANCY RATE (per 1,000 women age 15-19)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State, 15-19	92.60	80.89	79.48	72.39	-21.83	😊
State, 15-17	55.09	51.51	50.42	45.39	-17.62	😊

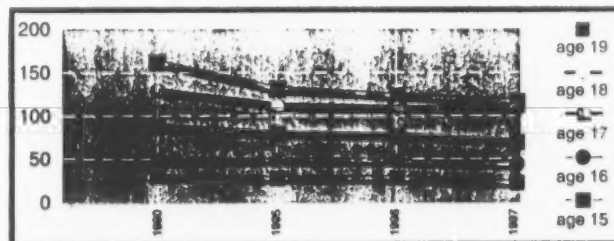
COUNTY 15-19:

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
Honolulu	75.14	71.77	75.06	68.21	-9.22	😊
Hawai'i	156.99	190.38	106.32	227.31	44.79	😞
Kaua'i	104.88	120.9	181.19	97.02	-7.50	😊
Maui	113.34	126.79	78.19	136.02	20.02	😞

ETHNICITY, STATED AS A PERCENT OF ALL PREGNANCIES:

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent in Teen Population
Caucasian	9.1	12.9	13.5	13.0	26.9
Hawaiian	42.4	45.9	45.7	45.4	16.8
Chinese	1.4	2.0	2.2	2.0	5.8
Filipino	17.6	17.7	17.2	16.7	20.1
Japanese	8.1	7.6	6.8	6.9	17.9
Korean	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	2.3
Samoan	3.1	2.6	3.1	2.4	2.3
African-American	2.8	3.3	2.6	3.3	2.4
Other	1.7	4.0	4.2	4.4	5.5

AGE-SPECIFIC PREGNANCY RATES



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Abuse and Neglect (Ages 12 through 17)

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Adolescents who are involved in abuse, often sexual abuse, suffer both short- and long-term social and psychological consequences. Abused youths are likely to demonstrate poor self-esteem and a poor body image, which often lead to self-injurious behavior. They frequently separate abruptly from their family through running away, becoming pregnant, or some other method of withdrawal. Research shows a strong correlation between a history of abuse and a variety of problem

behaviors that extend into adulthood, including substance abuse, criminal activities, and poor social adjustment.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

While the rate of abuse to teens is lower at the end of the decade than the beginning, there has been little change in recent years. The highest incidence of abuse is to those just entering the teen years, but that may be a reflection of the greater ability of older teens to leave a hurtful situation.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

There were 4,740 juveniles arrested as runaways in 1997, of whom 65.7 percent (3,021) were female. Research has shown that many runaways are escaping abusive situations.

RATE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT AGES 12-17 *(per 1,000 children of this age)*

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	7.6	6.4	6.5	6.3	-18.00	same



Idle Teens

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Youth who are not connected to any productive activity, such as schooling or working, are not making a successful transition to responsible adult roles. These youth have clearly not established a sound base for economic self-sufficiency and may be at risk of becoming dependent on welfare or engaging in illegal activity. Youthful employment is clearly related to the general economic cycles of a community, with teen unemployment usually at a higher rate than adult unemployment. As the Armed Forces have increased their stan-

dards, military service is an option not open to those who have not completed high school.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Since these data come from the Current Population Survey, a national study, county data are not available. The study now looks at a larger age group, those up to age 24. With increasing numbers of youth attending college, it is appropriate to have the expectation that schooling or work will be meaningful roles for this expanded group.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

Youth unemployment for 1996 was 20.4 percent, reflecting the difficulty many were having in finding employment. Those actively looking for work are counted among the labor force.

PERCENT 16- TO 19-YEAR-OLDS NOT IN SCHOOL, NOT WORKING

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-1997	Recent Trend
State	10	9.2	11.9	12.2	22.0	⬆️

PERCENT 16- TO 24-YEAR-OLDS NOT IN SCHOOL, NOT IN LABOR FORCE

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Recent Trend
State		27.6	26.2	25.7	⬆️



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Teen Violent Deaths

IMPORTANCE OF INDICATOR:

Deaths of teenagers by suicide, by homicide, or by accident are potentially preventable and, as such, represent serious failings in society. They are a sorrow to the families and a loss of potential benefit to the community. These deaths can also be a measure of the ability of teenagers to make safe and healthy choices regarding their lives.

DATA PICTURE IN HAWAII:

Nearly 60% of all teen deaths are from these three causes. The trend had been generally improving, but not in Hawaii County and not for females, who are still much less likely to die than males. Native Hawaiian and Samoan youths are about three times more likely to die than those in other ethnic groups.

SERVICE MEASURES ASSOCIATED WITH INDICATOR

In 1997, 4 percent (3,268) of high school students reported that they needed medical attention as a result of a suicide attempt.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATHS

	1990	1995	1996	1997	Percent Change 1990-97	Recent Trend
State	52.42	57.62	1.70	43.22	-17.56	☺
COUNTY:						
Honolulu	43.64	56.51	37.44	37.11	-14.97	☺
Hawai'i	77.04	58.68	91.94	91.14	18.30	☹
Kaua'i	30.34	27.73	54.31	26.92	-11.27	☺
Maui	109.12	71.24	111.62	41.50	-61.97	☺
GENDER:						
Male	78.17	78.00	69.34	47.10	-39.74	☺
Female	23.07	33.95	30.64	37.92	64.37	☹

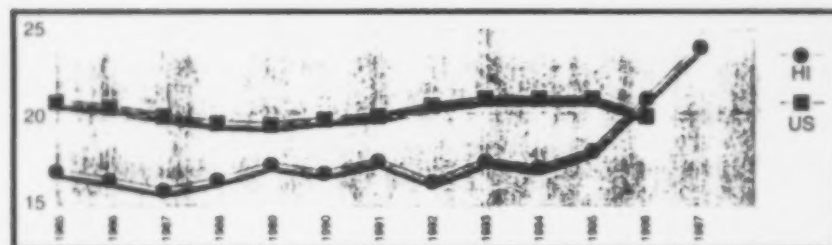
ETHNICITY, STATED AS A PERCENT OF ALL VIOLENT DEATHS:

	Percent in Teen Population				
Caucasian	16.2	16.7	20.0	22.0	26.9
Japanese	8.1	16.7	6.7	4.9	17.9
Hawaiian	48.6	40.0	28.9	48.8	16.8
Filipino	10.8	13.3	24.4	14.6	20.1
Chinese	2.7	0.0	2.2	0.0	5.8
African-American	5.4	6.7	4.4	0.0	2.4
Korean	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.4	2.3
Samoan	8.1	6.7	4.4	7.3	2.3
Other	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	5.5

All Other Causes: 13% Suicide 9% Homicide 6% Accidents: 12%



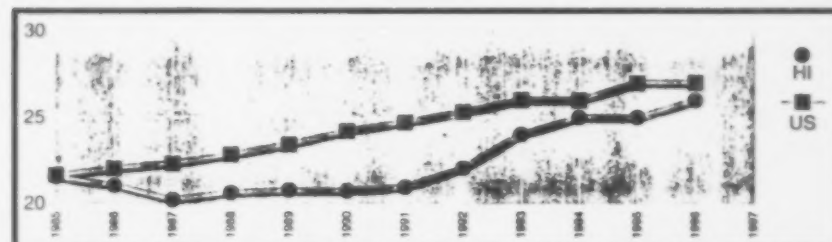
Trends in Basic Indicators: Hawai'i and US



Percent of children in poverty

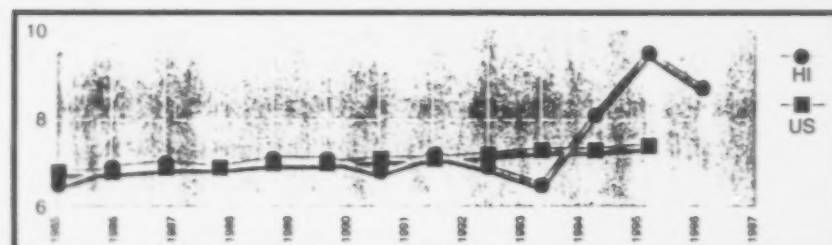
	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	16.8	16.3	15.7	16.3	17.2	16.7	17.4	16.2	17.4	17.0	18.0*	21.0*	24.0*
US	20.8	20.5	20.0	19.6	19.5	19.8	20.0	20.6	21.0	21.0	21.0	20.0	

Note: this uses Hawai'i poverty level as 115% of national level for Hawai'i data, national level for US data (due to cost of living differences). estimate of the 115% level



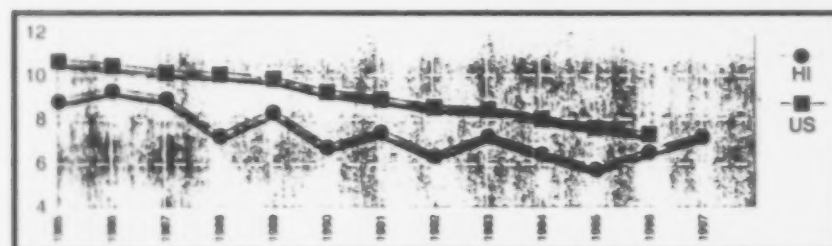
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	21.5	21.0	20.2	20.6	20.7	20.7	20.9	22.0	24.0	25.0	25.0	26.0	
US	21.6	22.0	22.3	22.8	23.4	24.2	24.7	25.3	26.0	26.0	27.0	27.0	



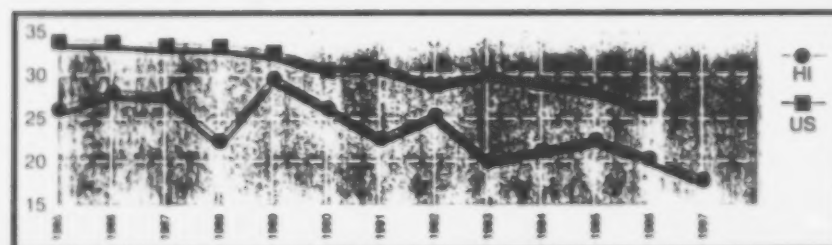
Percent of low-birth-weight babies (weighing less than 5.5 pounds)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	6.5	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.1	6.8	7.2	6.9	6.5	8.1	9.5	8.7
US	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	



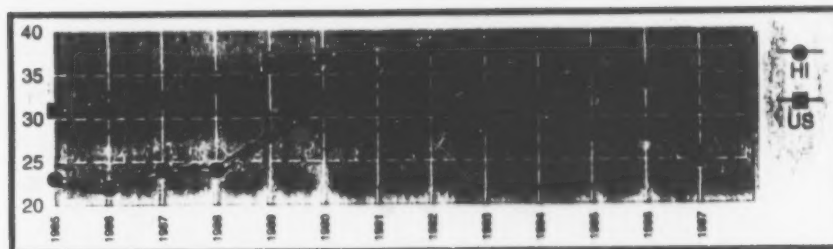
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	8.8	9.3	8.9	7.2	8.3	6.7	7.4	6.3	7.2	6.4	5.7	6.5	7.2
US	10.6	10.4	10.1	10.0	9.8	9.2	8.9	8.5	8.4	8.0	7.6	7.3	



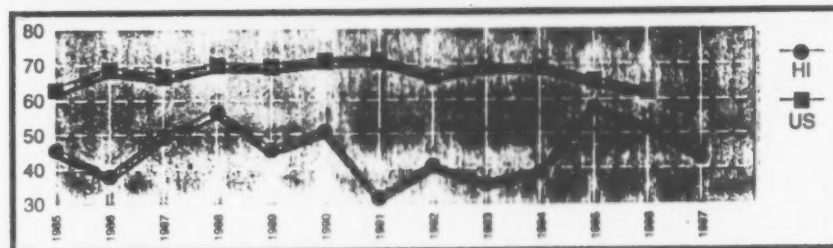
Child Death Rate (ages 1-14, per 100,000 children)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	26.0	27.9	27.5	22.3	29.5	26.1	22.6	25.2	20.0	21.2	22.4	20.3	17.8
US	33.8	33.7	33.3	33.2	32.4	30.5	30.7	28.8	30.0	29.0	28.0	26.0	



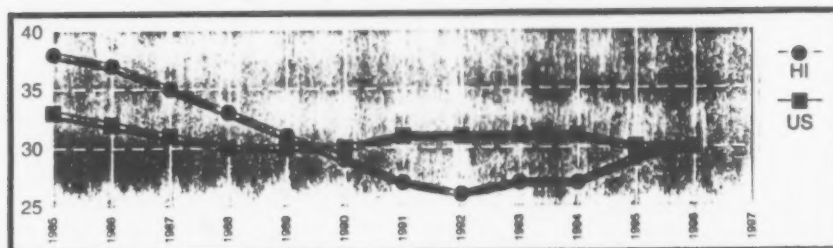
Number of births to teens (per 1,000 females ages 15-17)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	23	22	24	24	28	32	35	31	30	32	28	28	25
US	31	31	32	34	36	37	39	38	38	38	36	34	



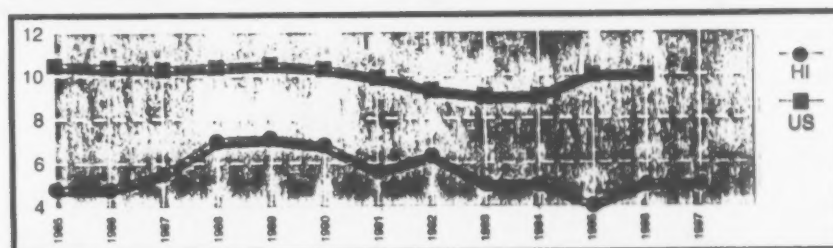
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19, per 100,000 teens)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	45.6	38.0	49.4	56.4	45.5	51.0	31.5	40.8	35.6	38.9	57.6	51.7	43.2
US	62.8	68.5	66.5	69.7	69.3	70.9	71.1	66.6	69.0	69.0	65.0	62.0	



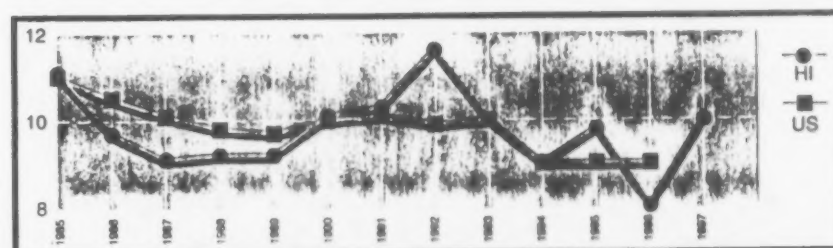
Percent of children living with parents who do not have full time, year round employment

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	38	37	35	33	31	29	27	26	27	27	29	30	
US	33	32	31	30	30	30	31	31	31	31	30	30	



Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16-19)

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	4.8	4.8	5.5	7.0	7.1	6.8	5.6	6.3	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	5.0
US	10.5	10.4	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.3	9.9	9.3	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.0	



Percent of teens not attending school and not working

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
HI	11.1	9.7	9.1	9.2	9.2	10.1	10.3	11.6	10.0	9.0	9.8	8.0	10.0
US	11.0	10.5	10.1	9.8	9.7	10.0	10.1	9.9	10.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	

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Methodology and Sources

All rates and percents of child population are based on population numbers from 1990 census and official estimates of the population from official US Bureau of the Census publications and websites. Child population estimates for counties and ethnic groups for 1995-7 were made by Hawaii Kids Count for the purpose of calculating the child death rate, juvenile violent crime arrest rate, teen violent death rate, and teenage pregnancy rate.

FAMILY COMPOSITION AND RESOURCES

Percent of children in poverty: the percentage of related children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the US poverty threshold, as defined by the US Office of Management and Budget. Source: Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, March Supplement.

Family Formation: the percentage of all first births that are to unmarried parents, mothers under the age of 20, and/or mothers without a high school diploma. Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent in single-parent families: the percentage of all children under age 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. Source: Hawaii Health Survey, Department of Health.

Teen birth rate: number of live births to teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 per 1,000 females in this age group. Source: number of births from Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent of average annual expenditures per consumer unit spent on housing: Source: Table 13.21, State Data Book, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

Percent with health insurance: the percentage of children under age 18 who are covered by private or public health insurance, including Quest and Medicaid. Source: Current Population Survey, March Supplement.

INFANCY AND EARLY CHILDHOOD

(roughly 0-5 years)

Percent having early prenatal care: the percentage of live births in which the mother had prenatal care in the first trimester of the pregnancy. Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent low-birth-weight babies: the percentage of live births weighing under 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds). Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Infant mortality rate: the number of deaths occurring to infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births. Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent fully immunized by age 2: the percentage of children receiving the complete series of vaccines protecting them against childhood diseases (DTP/DT, Polio, Measles, Rubella and Mumps) within their first two years of life. Source: Centers for Disease Control, National Immunization Survey.

Percent identified at developmental risk: the percentage of children birth to age 3 who have been identified as having developmental delays or biological risk factors and/or environmental risk factors which place them at risk of having delays in development. Source: Zero-To-Three Hawai'i Project.

Percent of poverty four-year-olds enrolled in Head Start: the number of four-year-olds multiplied by the young child poverty rate divided by the number enrolled in Head Start. Source: Bureau of the Census and Head Start Programs in each county.

Rate of child abuse: number of children involved in confirmed reports of child abuse and/or neglect per 100,000 children age 0-5. Source: Department of Human Services.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARS

(roughly ages 6-11)

Child death rate: the number of deaths from all causes to children between ages 1 and 14 per 100,000 children in this age range. Source: death data from Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent of children with work force parents who are enrolled in supervised program: number of children enrolled in the A+ program divided by the number of children age 6-11 with both or only parent employed. Source: A+ enrollment from Department of Education; number of children with both or only parent employed from census data.

Percent of third graders scoring average or above on the Stanford Achievement Test (S.A.T.) math section. Limited to public school students. Source: Office of Evaluation, Department of Education.

Percent children with special needs: the number of children in public elementary schools enrolled in special education classes divided by the number of children in these public school grades. Source: enrollment data from Department of Education.

Rate of child abuse: number of children involved in confirmed reports of child abuse and/or neglect per 100,000 children age 6-11. Source: Department of Human Services.

YOUTH

(roughly 12-18)

Rate of teen violent deaths: the number of deaths from homicide, suicide, and accidents to teens between ages 15 and 19, per 100,000 teens in this age group. Source: death data from Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Percent of eighth grade school students scoring average or above on the Stanford Achievement Test (S.A.T.) math section. Limited to public school students. Source: Office of Evaluation, Department of Education.

High School Graduation. Source: Department of Education.

Idle Teens: the percentage of teenagers between ages 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in school (full or part-time), not in the labor force, not in the Armed Forces, and not a married full-time homemaker. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

Rate of Abuse: number of youths (age 12-17) involved in confirmed reports of child abuse and/or neglect per 100,000 youths in this age group. Source: Department of Human Services. Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Substance use rate: the percentage of high school students who report they regularly use tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana. Source: Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey, biennial study by the Department of Health and Department of Education.

Teen pregnancy rate: the number of births, abortions, and fetal deaths to women under the age of 20 per 100,000 women of this age. Source: Office of Health Status Monitoring, Department of Health.

Juvenile violent crime arrest rate: the number of arrests of youths under age 18 for violent offenses (homicide, forcible rape, robbery, or aggravated assault) per 100,000 youths between ages 10 and 17. Source: Crime Prevention Division, Department of the Attorney General.

